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TI Pyrrolidinones

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AB In the prepn. of pyrrolidones by reaction of .gamma.-butyrolactone (I) with NH<sub>3</sub> or amines, H<sub>2</sub>O was used to absorb and remove the unreacted NH<sub>3</sub> or amine to increase the yield from .apprx.96% to 99%. E.g., I (1 part) and MeNH<sub>2</sub> (2 parts) was heated at 250.degree. for 2 hr to give 96% 1-methyl-2-pyrrolidone (II), whereas a similar reaction with the addn. of 2-4 parts of H<sub>2</sub>O followed by distn. gave 99% II.

IC C07D

DT Patent

LA Japanese